

COURT SUSTAINED ALL CONTENTIONS OF MUNICIPALITY

Highest Tribunal in State Holds That
Annexation of Sears Is Per-
fectly Valid.

CURATIVE ACT BROAD MEASURE

Alleged Defects in Petition Remedied
Through Passage of Law Says
Justice Craig.

Complete text of the opinion of the Illinois supreme court in the Sears annexation case, in which the decision of Judge W. T. Church in Rock Island county circuit court, finding the issues for the respondents and the annexation valid, was affirmed, has been received by Hon. William McEniry, who, with J. K. Scott, so successfully represented the city's interests in the quo warranto proceedings.

The main points involved in the action, which was filed June 20, this year, in the circuit court here by the state's attorney on relation of Mary J. Dougherty and others against the city of Rock Island, requiring it to show by what warrant it assumed jurisdiction over certain territory alleged to be included within its corporate limits by virtue of the Sears annexation election, was form of the ballot used; whether the legislature had the right to pass curative legislation remedying alleged defects in the petition filed with Sears for territory seeking

annexation to that village; whether the curative act which was passed by the legislature applied to the case at bar; whether it was class legislation; whether the law on which the election was based had been repealed.

What Appellants Claimed.

The contention of the appellants was that the law of 1872, as amended in 1913, under which the annexation election was held, did not cure the alleged defects in the annexation proceedings, for the reason that a petition signed by the requisite number of legal voters and property owners in the territory proposed to be annexed is essential to give the corporate authorities jurisdiction to act in the premises, and that without such a petition all of the proceedings were void and cannot be validated by curative statute; that the legislature is powerless to give validity to a void act by a curative statute.

In the opinion, which was delivered by Justice Charles C. Craig, Galesburg, the supreme court held that the power of the legislature to pass curative acts and to validate irregular or void proceedings of municipal corporations is well established by the authorities. It was held that the legislature may ratify and confirm any act which it might have authorized in the first instance where the defect arises out of the neglect of some legal formality and the curative acts interfere with no vested rights, which is declared to be the situation with reference to the Sears annexation.

What Court Holds.

The court held that the defects complained of were cured by the curative legislation; that the legislation in question is not unconstitutional as special legislation; that the law of 1872, under which the election was held, had not been repealed, but was in full force and effect, except for certain provisions which had been rendered invalid; that section 2 of the law of 1872 had not been repealed by the act of 1889, which provides for the annexation of one city to another; that any defect there might have been in the form of the ballots was cured by the legislation passed; that the provisions of the union ordinance adopted at the time of the annexation, alleged to be illegal and void, because not initiated by the board of local improvements, especially the plan for the assessment for paving of Ninth and Twelfth streets, and for other improvements in the annexed territory, are legal, since the board of local improvements is merely one department of city government and subject to the direction and control of it; that the question of unfair and unjust assessment is purely a matter between the municipality and the property owners affected, and not an issue in the case at bar.

LABELS TO ADORN MOLINE CORNERS

Commissioner Ed. Erickson Orders 578
Street Numbers—Will Be Placed
in the Spring.

Commissioner Ed. Erickson plans to have Moline one of the best labeled cities in the country. He has selected from a number of sample posts and signs the style to adorn streets of that city, and announces that their installation will commence April 1, 1916.

Every one of the 578 street intersections of the city will have one of these signs. Type of sign selected is 20 inches long and four inches wide, has a blue enamel background and the names of the streets lettered in white. Four of these will be bolted to the top of each post in such a manner that they will be visible from all directions.

The posts weigh at least 25 pounds each and will be eight feet above the ground. They are of good quality angle steel and are painted black.

In the downtown business section the signs will be attached to brackets fastened to posts already in use, object being to eliminate the necessity of installing any more posts in that part of the city.

FINAL REDUCTION on GOWNS 1/2 PRICE



M. & K. announce a sweeping sacrifice sale of all their beautiful gowns to be held commencing next Monday, just in time for the Christmas social functions.

Your Unrestricted Choice
of Every Gown in Our Store
HALF PRICE

There are no exceptions, no restrictions, all our exclusive and exquisite creations are included in this final reduction sale at

1/2 Price

This Sale Starts Monday Morning, December 27th, and will continue until every gown is sold. Early selection is advisable for there will surely be a large attendance at this sale.

M. & K.
ROCK ISLAND

NOTE:—All our pretty dancing dresses and party frocks for the younger set will also be on sale at sweeping reductions.

\$25 dancing dresses at \$16.95.

\$15 dancing dresses at \$9.75.

\$13.50 dancing dresses at \$7.95.

ASKS COUNCIL TO PERMIT COASTING

Parent Talks to Commission, Request-
ing It to Designate Where Sport
May Be Enjoyed.

INTERFERENCE IS PROTESTED

Police Stop Youths on Twenty-First
Street When Residents Complain
to Authorities.

Rock Island city council today took under advisement a plan for designating certain hills in the city for coasting purposes, following protests made by parents because children were stopped in the sport by police last night.

Citizens seem to be divided regarding the sport. Complaint was made to the police department last night by some residents on Twenty-first street, where there was a large number of youths coasting. Police went to the hill and stopped them.

Today a resident on Twenty-first street appeared before an informal meeting of the council and protested against the action. He said the majority of the parents believed that the boys had a right to the privilege of enjoying coasting and said that the city would be depriving the youths of fun which, although somewhat dangerous, was healthy and which grew-ups in their day had enjoyed.

"I realize that the boys are none too careful. But if they were careful they would not be boys," he said. He advanced the plan of setting aside certain hills—Forty-fourth street, Twenty-first street and Seventeenth street—for coasting and properly guarding them. He said that red flags could be placed at all intersections and that these would warn drivers to slow down so as not to strike any of the coasters. He said at night red lanterns could be hung on poles as a warning and stated that this

would cut the danger down to a minimum.

Fears City Liable.

Commissioner Juhl said that he believed that this would stand the city liable for a damage suit if anybody was hurt. He declared that by designating the hills the city would be guaranteeing a certain amount of protection to the coasters.

The council decided that it had better give the question a thorough investigation before acting, and it may be that a resolution will be presented to the commission at its meeting Monday.

All the news all the time—The Argus.

TURN HAIR DARK WITH SAGE TEA

If Mixed With Sulphur It Dark-
ens so Naturally No
body Can Tell.

The old-time mixture of Sage Tea and Sulphur for darkening gray, streaked and faded hair is grandmother's treatment, and folks are again using it to keep their hair a good, even color, which is quite sensible, as we are living in an age when a youthful appearance is of the greatest advantage.

Nowadays, though, we don't have the troublesome task of gathering the sage and mussy mixing at home. All drug stores sell the ready-to-use product called "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound" for about 50 cents a bottle. It is very popular because nobody can discover it has been applied. Simply moisten your comb or a soft brush with it and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time; by morning the gray hair disappears, but what delights the ladies with Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur is that, besides beautifully darkening the hair after a few applications, it also produces that soft lustre and appearance of abundance which is so attractive; besides, prevents dandruff, itching scalp and falling hair.

Harper House pharmacy.—(Adv.)

MOLINE'S MAYOR IS SANTA CLAUS

At Least Bewildered Gentleman Who
Appears at Elk's Entertainment
Has Voice Like Him.

Annual Christmas exercises provided by the Sylvan Playgrounds club and big brothers of Moline were enjoyed last evening by more than 500 children, the kiddies assembling in Recreation hall. Mrs. Elizabeth Huntoon was in charge of the program. After being allowed a few minutes to feast their eyes on the huge tree, the young guests arose and sang "America" and "Silent Night, Holy Night." Piano accompaniment was by Mrs. C. B. Foster.

Mrs. George Huntoon then told a Christmas story, simply, just as their mothers would have told it to the youngsters. The story prepared the kiddies for the appearance of Santa Claus, who jingled up the stairs and through the crowd of youngsters like a regular old Kris Kringle who had been doing the stunt all his life. When he spoke his voice sounded very much like that of Mayor Carlson's—and it might have been he.

When Santa had taken his departure, the boys and girls were lined up and as they filed out the big Big Brothers presented each child with a stocking filled with goodies.

A Popular Disease.

What American is there who has not been or is not going to be a president of something? Time was when the number of societies, clubs, organizations, chapters, associations, etc., was so limited that only about one in ten thousand could be a president. Now nobody, no matter how humble he is, can avoid the office.—Life.

No Pity There.

Undutiful boys may see themselves held up as before a mirror in the following anecdote: A young Irish girl in giving testimony in a court of jus-

tion, when asked some questions in "another smile." There is a biography reference to the prisoner, replied, "Ar—of unkindness in that simple sentence, sir, I'm sure he never made his"—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.



Costs But a Nickel—
Tastes Like a Dime

Let a man start off with the RIGHT kind of a cigar in the morning and it helps a whole lot towards making the rest of the day go right.

Suppose You Try a
LEWIS SINGLE BINDER 5c CIGAR

—tomorrow morning—that's the time your senses are keenest. You'll wonder if the man didn't give you a 10c cigar by mistake. (It does cost him more than any other 5c cigar he sells).

Ask Your Friends to Join You



in a glass of our Old Mission beer. It is the drink of good fellowship and of good health. Made from the best hops and barley malt and properly aged, it is a drink without a fault or a regret. Have a case of it in the house. You'll find it excellent on all occasions.

Rock Island Brewing Co.

Mr. Man

Have you ever thought that there is nothing a boy appreciates more than the confidence of an honest square Grown Up? It's true. It is true of your own boy if you have one. But—

IF YOU CAN'T BE A "GOOD FELLOW" TO YOUR
OWN BOY BE A "GOOD FELLOW" TO
SOMEBODY'S ELSE BOY

One of the best ways to do this is to take out a membership in the Boys' Department of the Y. M. C. A.. It will be a Christmas Gift that will long be remembered. The rates are:

10 to 12 years	\$2 a year
12 to 15 years	\$3 a year
15 to 18 years	\$7 a year

